

DERWENT PUBLICATIONS LTD.

46109

46109 E/23	C03 D16	HUMI-23.10.80 *DE 3040.040	C(4-A7D, 5-C1, 12-N8, 12-N9, 12-N10) D(5-A4) : 3 e
HUMINAL VERTRIEBSSGE 23.10.80-DE-040040 (03.06.82) C05f-11 C05g-01 C09k-17	Fertiliser prep'd. by composting conifer bark - by mixing ground bark with ammonium bicarbonate and water	with the addn. of plant nutrients, to promote plant growth. Pref. the end prod. has total N : $P_2O_5 : K_2O$ (insol) of 1 : 1 : 1.5 or 2 : 1 : 1.5 or 4 : 1 : 1.5.	
		<u>EXAMPLE</u> Bark was mixed with 6 kg. ammonium bicarbonate (17.5% N) per 1000 l. fresh bark and the water content set to 70% at 20°C. After 1 week the temp. rose to 65°C, and reaction continued until the 5th week, when the temp. reached 70°C., after which the temp. fell, until in the 12th week the temp. had stabilised.(18pp1401).	
		<u>PREPARATION</u> Prepn. of a soil improving agent by composting conifer bark, comprises grinding fresh conifer bark to particle size 0-18 mm. and then mixing with 1-2 kg. (per 1000 l. fresh bark) of pure nitrogen in the form of ammonium bicarbonate, and with 70-80 wt.% water to give a homogeneous mixt. which is then composted.	

USES/ADVANTAGES

The fertiliser smells like fresh forest soil, is dark in colour and is a good absorber of water (62% at pH 0.6). None of these properties are possessed by calcium nitrate as nitrogen carrier. The bacteria present in the bark need nitrogen to synthesise their protein; ammonia is a considerably better source of this than nitrate.

DETAILS

The conifer bark is pref. from a spruce, fir tree or pine tree. Pref. the composted bark is enriched with a 25-50 vol % peat with degree of decomposition H6 to H10, opt.

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